

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated September 20, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 8, 9 and 11-13 are rejected by the Examiner. With this response, claim 8 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 11-13 are currently pending, of which claims 1-7 are withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 8-9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as falling to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 8-9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0013920 to Hashimoto et al. (hereinafter "Hashimoto '920") in view of Applicant's Related Art (hereinafter "ARA") and Japanese Patent Publication No. 64-059823 to Kawabe et al. (hereinafter "Kawabe"). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto '920 in view of ARA and Kawabe, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0083203 to Hashimoto et al (hereinafter "Hashimoto '203").

The rejection of claims 8-9 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Because Applicants have amended independent claim 8, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is traversed.

The rejection of claims 8-9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto '920 in view of AARA and Kawabe is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 8 is allowable at least in that this claim recites a combination of elements, including, for example, "determining a residual quantity of the dispensing material remaining in the syringe by comparing the third flow amount of gas with the divided parts the second flow amount of the gas" and "wherein the dispensing material is still dispensed if the third flow amount of gas corresponds to the divided parts of the second flow amount of the gas." The cited references do not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

In rejecting claim 8, the Examiner acknowledges that Hashimoto '920 "does not teach determining a second flow amount of gas by supplying the gas to the syringe filled with the minimum quantity of residual dispensing material that is enough to ensure a previous dispensing but not enough for as subsequent dispensing and the second flow amount divided into predetermined parts. However, the second flow amount of gas can be calculated based on 1) determination of the residual amount of material in the syringe (i.e., the method of Kawabe), 2) the correlation between the flow amount of gas supplied to the syringe and the amount of material dispensed (i.e., the correlation of Hashimoto), and 3) the amount of material required for each LCD substrate (i.e., an amount that can be calculated according to AAPA)." See Office Action, lines 1-9 page 5.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's statement. In the claimed invention, the reference for determining the second flow amount of the gas is the minimum amount that only one dispensing process can be conducted. That is, the second flow amount of gas is divided into a plurality of parts which correspond to the minimum amount. When the third flow amount of the gas is compared with the divided part and the third flow amount of the gas corresponds to the divided parts, the dispensing process is still conducted. However, when the third flow amount of the gas is compared with the divided part and the third flow amount of the gas does not correspond to the divided parts, that is, the third flow amount of the gas is less than the minimum amount, the dispensing process is stopped and the syringe is filled with dispensing material. This technical feature is not shown in Hashimoto '920 and ARA. Thus, the cited references do not teach or suggest at least "wherein the dispensing material is still dispensed if the third flow amount of gas corresponds to the divided parts of the second flow amount of the gas."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 9 and 11-13 and reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 9 and 11-13 are allowable at least by virtue of the fact that they depend from claim 8, which is allowable.

The rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto '920 in view of ARA and Kawabe, and further in view of Hashimoto '203 is respectfully

traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 13 is allowable at least by virtue of the fact that they depend from claim 8, which is allowable.

Applicants believe the above amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

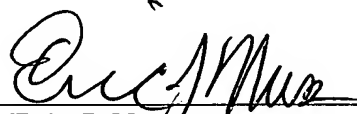
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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